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quick facts on…

South Florida Water Management District

Budget Year 2011–2012

OCTOBER 2011

The South Florida Water Management District *is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.*

Our Mission *is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply.*

Agency Overview

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) serves 16 counties from Orlando to Key West and from Fort Myers to Fort Lauderdale, encompassing 31% of the state's land area and 41% of the population.

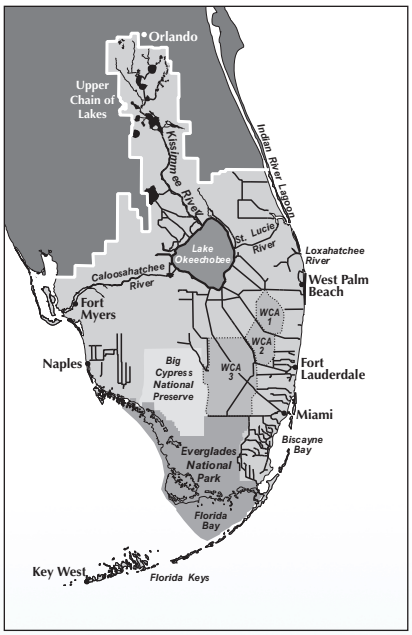
The SFWMD operates the region's primary flood control network along with other system components made up of major canals, levees, water storage areas, pump stations and other water control structures.

The agency also safeguards and plans regional water supplies for people and the environment, emphasizing the development of alternative water sources and water conservation. Other core responsibilities include improving and protecting water quality and restoring natural systems in one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world – America's Everglades.

The budget year starts October 1 and ends September 30 of the following year. To underscore transparency and public accountability, staff constantly look for and implement ways to improve operations, achieve efficiencies and implement good business practices.

State legislation divides the District into two taxing basins based on hydrologic characteristics unique to each basin. The Big Cypress Basin includes all of Collier County and a portion of mainland Monroe County. The Okeechobee Basin comprises the remaining area within SFWMD boundaries.

A nine-member Governing Board, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate, provides oversight and sets policy for both basins. The Governor also appoints five Collier County residents to oversee Big Cypress Basin-specific planning, budgeting and operations.



Organizational Structure

The Governing Board appoints an Executive Director to carry out the Board's directives. Along with an Assistant Executive Director, the executive management team includes the Chief of Staff (*intergovernmental and public communications*), General Counsel (*legal issues*), Everglades Policy Director (*federal/state restoration partnership efforts*) and the directors of four divisions:

Operations, Maintenance & Construction – This division is responsible for operating and maintaining South Florida's primary water control network – the regional Central and Southern Florida project built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, District-constructed facilities and the works of the Big Cypress Basin. The system is continuously expanded as restoration projects and upgraded flood control facilities are constructed and become operational. This division also provides stewardship of public lands.

Water Resources – To assess South Florida's diverse water supply and environmental protection needs, this division conducts scientific research, collects and analyzes field samples, develops computer models and utilizes many other tools and methodologies. This critical information is used to plan and implement effective strategies for ensuring water supply for both people and the environment, restoring ecosystems and improving water quality.

Regulation – Streamlined regulatory programs, including online accessibility and permit compliance, help manage the region's groundwater supplies and protect natural resources such as wetlands, rivers, lakes and estuaries from adverse impacts. This division ensures the fair, consistent and timely review of environmental and water use permit applications.

Administrative Services – Comprising most of the business functions of the agency, this division provides the most efficient and cost-effective resources needed to support the District's core mission responsibilities. The division includes budget, finance, procurement, information technology, facilities and human resources.

For More Information

Visit www.sfwmd.gov for additional details about the agency, including Governing Board members and meetings; agency organization; publications; major projects; permitting; related rules and statutes; agency news; career opportunities; and more.

QUICK STATS

Area and population:

- Spans all or part* of 16 counties:

Broward	Miami-Dade
Charlotte*	Monroe
Collier	Okeechobee*
Glades	Orange*
Lee	Osceola*
Hendry	Palm Beach
Highlands*	Polk*
Martin	St. Lucie

- 18,000 square miles
- 7.7 million residents

One of the world's largest water management systems:

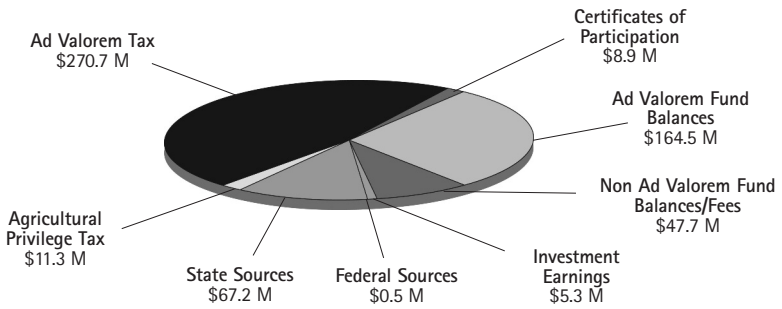
- More than 1,600 miles of canals and 1,000 miles of levees/berms
- More than 500 structures and 700 culverts
- 60 pump stations
- 25 weather stations

Funding Sources

District activities are funded by a combination of ad valorem (*property*) taxes and other sources such as state revenue, licenses, permit fees, agricultural taxes, investment income and bond proceeds.

Where the Money Comes From

2011–2012 Budget ($ Millions)



Total Budget $576.1 Million

District Locations

Headquarters
West Palm Beach: (561) 686-8800 or (800) 432-2045

Big Cypress Basin
Naples: (239) 263-7615

Field Stations
Big Cypress Basin: (239) 597-2236
Clewiston: (863) 983-1431
Fort Lauderdale: (954) 452-4814
Homestead: (305) 242-5933
Miami: (305) 513-3420
Okeechobee: (863) 462-5328
St. Cloud: (407) 891-3550
West Palm Beach: (561) 791-4100

Regulatory Service Centers
Lower West Coast: (239) 338-2929 or (800) 248-1201
Okeechobee: (863) 462-5260 or (800) 250-4200
Orlando: (407) 858-6100 or (800) 250-4250

Toll-free numbers are Florida only.

South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road • West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
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MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 24680 • West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

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